297-195.11 AU 3507 46111

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382,374
1 SHEET

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

This drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.

Fig. 1.

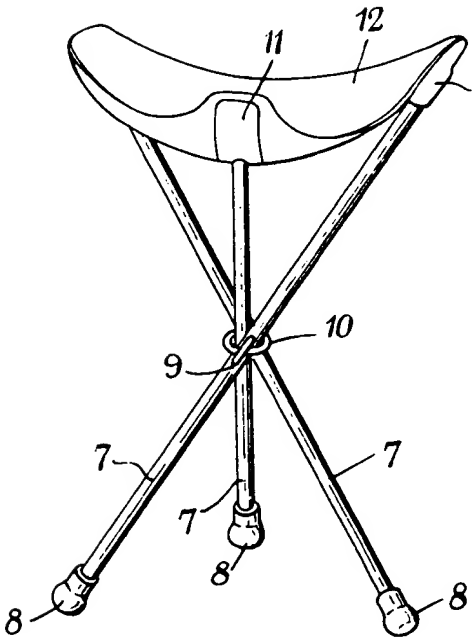
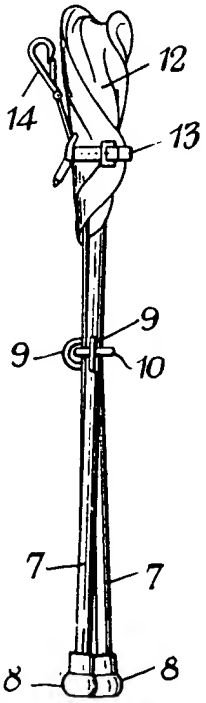


Fig. 2.



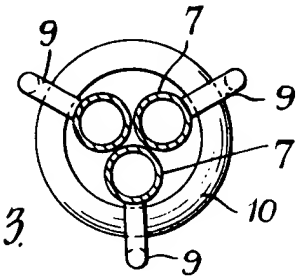


Fig. 3.

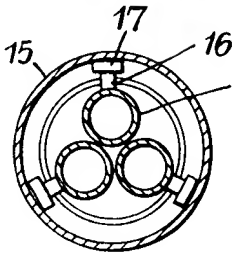


Fig. 5.

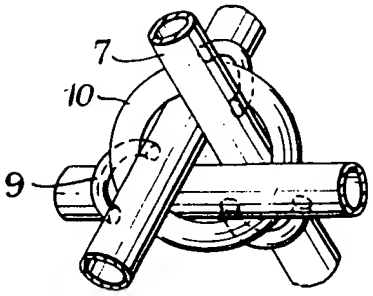


Fig. 4.

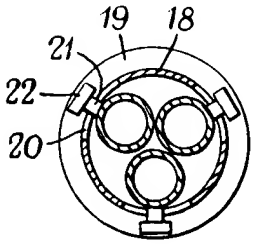


Fig. 6.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

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Fig. 1.

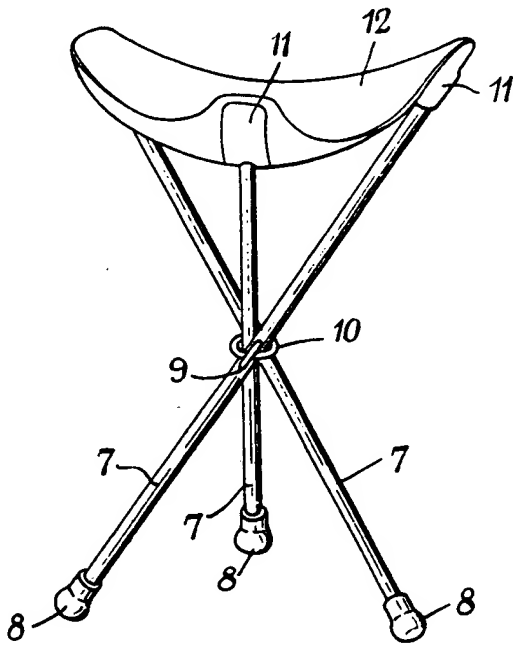
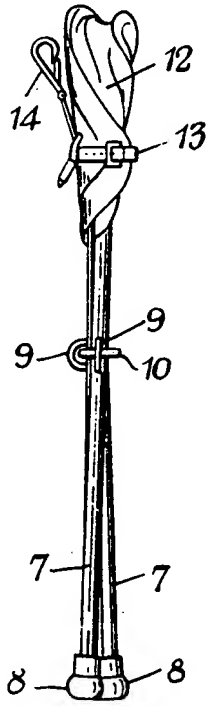


Fig. 2.



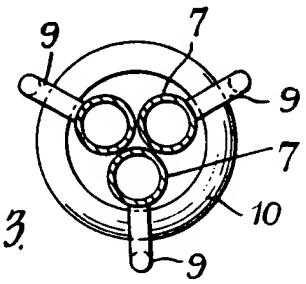


Fig. 3.

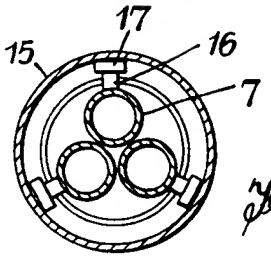


Fig. 5.

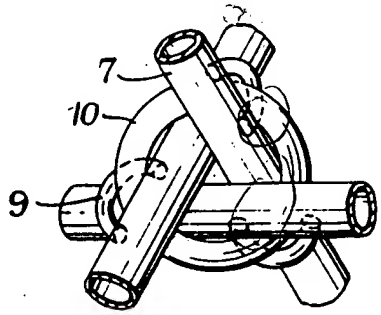


Fig. 4.

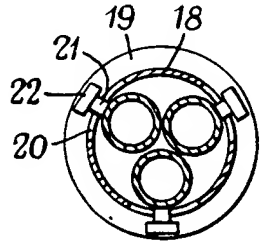


Fig. 6.

ATTACHMENT 3

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

Inventor: CECIL JOHN GODDARD

882,374

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Index at acceptance:—Class 52(3), H8.

International Classification:—A47c.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in and relating to Folding Furniture having Supporting Legs

We, F. GODDARD & COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company, of 26, Balham Hill, London, S.W.12, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to folding furniture, such as stools, tables, cabinets, workbaskets, hand-basins, and otherwise, supported by three, four or more legs formed by similar tubes or rods of stiff material of desired section, all of which mutually cross in a position intermediate their ends and are adapted to be held so crossed with their ends spaced apart, the lower ends to constitute supporting feet and the upper ends to carry by pockets, sockets, or otherwise, the flexible or other seat, the actual table-top, cabinet, workbasket, hand-basin or otherwise, and has for its object to provide such devices of great simplicity which are readily collapsed and erected.

In general, folding furniture of the above type, according to the present invention has a construction in which the legs are held loosely bunched at the position intermediate their ends by an encircling ring of suitable material which may be somewhat flexible and/or resilient, which ring is not pivoted to the legs but in which each of the legs in this position has projecting means to abut the ring with desired play or clearance, to hold the said ring in the intermediate position whether the furniture is in the folded or erected position.

The loose bunching thus maintains the legs assembled when folded, but when erected with the legs opened out the looseness is taken up, as each tube or rod forcibly abuts the ring at one or more positions and also abuts one or more of the other tubes or rods.

In certain constructions, each tube or rod may have two projections to engage the upper and lower surfaces of the ring and the outer ends of these projections may be joined to form a loop which loosely encircles the section of the ring.

In other constructions each tube or rod has a single projection, which may be headed, to engage loosely in an aperture, slot, groove or the like in the ring, in such manner that the ring is loosely held in the intermediate position.

The ring may be formed from any suitable material and in any suitable manner. For example, it may be a metal ring of circular, oval, or other section. When so formed it may be in two semi-circular halves, fastenable together, or be constructed as an openable clip to receive the tubes or rods. In other cases it can be constituted by one or more turns of a flexible multi-stranded metal cable or of a multi-stranded elastic cord (such as manufactured for exercise apparatus) with suitable means for securing the ends. Again, it can be formed from a rubber or a plastic material, preferably reinforced, of desired section, flexibility and resiliency. It could also be formed by, or comprise one or more helically coiled tension springs. As another example, it could be formed as a large-size "key-ring" on which when the double projections of the legs are of loop form, these loops could be "threaded".

In any case, where the material or construction of the ring permits, the inner surface thereof can be moulded or otherwise shaped, for the tubes or rods to "nest" in such shapings, when in the erected position.

In order that the invention may be better understood, it will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings

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which are given by way of example only and in which:—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a folding stool with a detachable seat, according to one embodiment of the invention with the stool in the position erected for use.

Fig. 2 is a similar view to Fig. 1, with the stool folded.

Fig. 3 is a sectional plan to a larger scale taken just above the ring which encircles the legs and with the parts in the folded position of the stool.

Fig. 4 shows a similar view to Fig. 3 but with the parts in the erected position, and Figs. 5 and 6 show similar views to Fig. 3 of other methods of carrying the invention into effect.

The particular construction shown in Figs. 1 to 4 illustrates a folding stool which has three legs 7 of circular section metal tubing. Each of these at the lower end has an attached foot 8, of rubber or otherwise, and in an intermediate position of its length has welded or brazed thereto the ends of a U-shaped loop 9 the limbs of which will constitute the projections to engage an encircling ring 10.

At the other end the tubes are adapted to fit into stiffened pockets or socket portions 11 on the underside of a flexible seat 12, of desired material, so disposed that when the seat is sat upon the material thereof located between the ends of the tubes is put into "tension", which holds the legs from "spreading" and divides the strain of the load between the seat, the ring 10 and the feet 8 engaging the ground or floor.

The ring 10 which encircles the three tubes can be of metal, although it could be of any form or material as hereinbefore described, and according to its construction may have to be engaged in the loops 9 before their final attachment to the tubes 7.

Whatever the arrangement, it will be understood that a three-legged foldable stool as particularly described is readily foldable and transported. In this folded position, as shown in Fig. 2, the flexible seat can also be contained as, whilst still engaged by the upper ends of the legs, it can assume accommodating folds when the parts are collapsed and be retained by a buckled strap 13. This latter may have an attached clip 14 by which the folded seat can be attached to a waist belt or the like.

When each leg has a single projection, the ring can have an inner groove or slot. For example, and as shown in Fig. 5, the ring 15 is of C section and the projection 16 from each leg 7 has a head 17 to slide freely in the groove.

Again, the ring 18 could have a channel section as shown in Fig. 6, with the channel groove 19 on the exterior and the base of the channel formed with slots 20 to take the projections 21 which have heads 22 to come in the exterior groove.

In addition to, or in place of, the seat, table top or the like partly taking the strain of the load, in some cases the upper portions and/or lower portions of the legs may be interconnected by flexible chains or the like or by releasable rods or the like, for the purpose.

The invention is not limited to the precise forms or details of construction herein described, as these may be varied to suit particular requirements.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. An article of folding furniture, of the type set forth, in which the legs are held loosely bunched at the position intermediate their ends by an encircling ring which may be rigid or somewhat flexible and/or resilient, which ring is not pivoted to the legs but in which each of the legs in this position has projecting means to abut the ring with desired play or clearance, to hold the ring in the intermediate position both when the article of furniture is in the folded and erected positions, for the purposes set forth.

2. An article of folding furniture as claimed in Claim 1 in which each leg has two projections to engage the upper and lower surfaces of the ring.

3. An article of folding furniture as claimed in Claim 2 in which the outer ends of the two projections on each leg are joined to form a loop which loosely encircles the section of the ring.

4. An article of folding furniture as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the ring is formed in two semi-circular halves which are adapted to be fastened together.

5. An article of folding furniture as claimed in any one of the preceding Claims 1 to 3, in which the ring is formed as a large-size "key-ring".

6. An article of folding furniture as claimed in Claim 1 in which each leg has a single projection, which may be headed, to engage loosely in an aperture, slot, groove or the like in the ring, in such manner that the ring is loosely held in the intermediate position of the legs.

7. An article of folding furniture as herein described and shown in Figs. 1 to 4, or Fig. 5, or Fig. 6, of the accompanying drawings.

BROWNE & CO.,
Agents for the Applicants,
9, Warwick Court, Gray's Inn,
London, W.C.1,

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Improvements in and relating to Folding Furniture having Supporting Legs

We, F. GODDARD & COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company, of 26, Balham Hill, London, S.W. 12, do hereby declare this invention to be described in the following statement:—

This invention relates to folding furniture, such as stools, tables, cabinets, workbaskets, hand-basins, and otherwise, supported by three, four or more legs formed by similar tubes or rods of stiff material of desired section, all of which mutually cross in a position intermediate their ends and are adapted to be held so crossed with their ends spaced apart, the lower ends to constitute supporting feet and the upper ends to carry by pockets, sockets, or otherwise, the flexible or other seat, the actual table-top, cabinet, workbasket, hand-basin or otherwise, and has for its object to provide such devices of great simplicity which are readily collapsed and erected.

In general folding furniture of the above type, according to the present invention has the legs held loosely bunched at the position intermediate their ends by an encircling ring of suitable material which may be somewhat flexible and/or resilient, and each of the legs in this position has projecting means to abut the ring with desired play or clearance, to hold the said ring in the intermediate position whether the furniture is in the folded or erected position.

The loose bunching thus maintains the legs assembled when folded, but when erected with the legs opened out angularly in two dimensions the looseness is taken up, as each tube or rod forcibly abuts the ring at one or more positions and also abuts one or more of the other tubes or rods.

In certain constructions, each tube or rod may have two projections to engage the upper and lower surfaces of the ring and the outer ends of these projections may be joined to foorm a loop which loosely encircles the section of the ring.

In other constructions each tube or rod has a single projection, which may be headed, to engage loosely in an aperture, slot, groove or the like in the ring, in such manner that the ring is loosely held in the intermediate position.

The ring may be formed from any suitable material and in any suitable manner. For example, it may be a metal ring of circular, oval, or other section. When so formed, it may be in two semi-circular halves, fastenable together, or be constructed as an openable clip to receive the tubes or rods. In other cases it can be constituted by one or more turns of a flexible multi-stranded metal cable or of a multi-stranded elastic cord (such as manufactured for exercise apparatus) with suitable means for securing the ends. Again, it can be formed from a rubber or a plastic material, preferably reinforced, of desired section, flexibility and resiliency. It could also be formed by, or comprise one or more helically coiled tension springs. As another example, it could be formed as a large-size "key-ring" on which, when the double projections of the legs are of loop form, these loops could be "threaded".

In any case, where the material or construction of the ring permits, the inner surface thereof can be moulded or otherwise shaped, for the tubes or rods to "nest" in such shapings, when in the erected position.

Most articles of folding furniture in accordance with the invention will have only three or four legs, and in one particular construction a folding stool has three legs of circular section metal tubing. Each of these at the lower end has an attached foot, of rubber or otherwise, and in an intermediate position of its length has welded or brazed thereto the ends of a U-shaped loop the limbs of which will constitute the projections to engage the encircling ring.

At the other end the tubes are adapted to fit into stiffened pocket or socket portions on the underside of a flexible seat, of desired material, shape and construction, so disposed that when the seat is sat upon the material of the seat is put into "tension", which holds the legs from "spreading" and divides the strain of the load between the seat, the ring (to be particularly described) and the feet engaging the ground or floor.

The ring to encircle the three tubes can be of any form hereinbefore described, and according to its construction may have to be engaged in the loops before their final attachment to the tubes.

Whatever the arrangement, it will be understood that a three-legged foldable stool as particularly described is readily foldable and transported. In this folded position, the flexible seat can also be contained as, whilst still engaged by the upper ends of the legs, it can assume accommodating folds when the parts are collapsed.

When each leg has a single projection, the ring can have an inner groove or slot. For Example, the ring can be of C section and the projection of each leg have a head to slide freely in the groove. Again, the ring could have a channel section with the channel groove on the exterior and the base of the channel formed with shaped apertures or slots, to take the projections which have heads to come in the exterior groove.

In addition to, or in place of, the seat,

table top or the like partly taking the strain of the load, in some cases the upper portions and/or the lower portions of the legs may be interconnected by flexible chains or the like or by releasable rods or the like, for the purpose.

The invention is not limited to the precise forms or details of construction herein described, as these may be varied to suit particular requirements.

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